

## (19) World Intellectual Property Organization International Bureau

(43) International Publication Date  
21 April 2005 (21.04.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
WO 2005/035291 A1

(51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: B60K 15/067, 15/07

(74) Agents: NAKAJIMA, Jun et al.; TAIYO, NAKAJIMA & KATO, Seventh Floor, HK-Shinjuku Bldg., 3-17, Shinjuku 4-chome, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo 1600022 (JP).

(21) International Application Number: PCT/JP2004/015105

(22) International Filing Date: 6 October 2004 (06.10.2004)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data: 2003-348059 7 October 2003 (07.10.2003) JP

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): TOYOTA JIDOSHA KABUSHIKI KAISHA [JP/JP]; 1, Toyota-cho, Toyota-shi, Aichi 4718571 (JP).

(72) Inventor; and

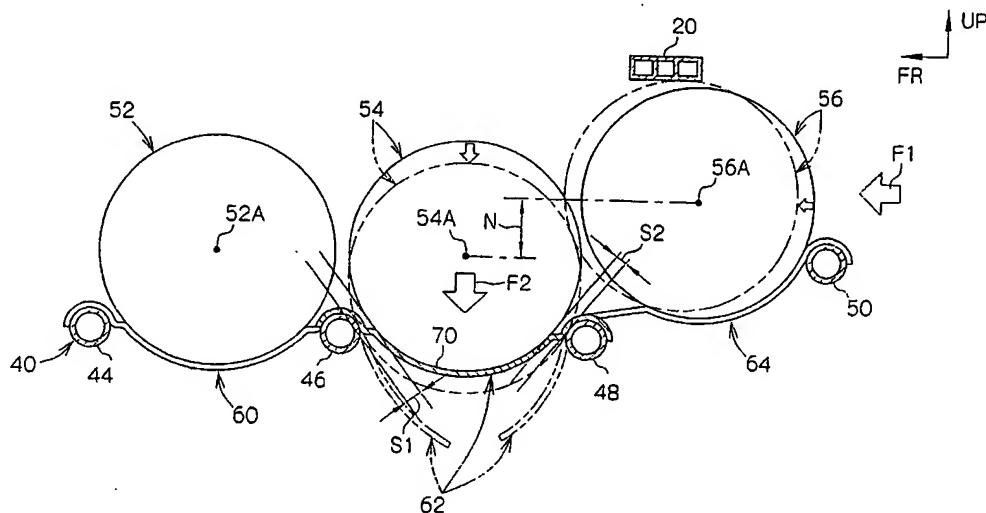
(75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): MINAMI, Teruyuki [JP/JP]; c/o TOYOTA JIDOSHA KABUSHIKI KAISHA, 1, Toyota-cho, Toyota-shi, Aichi 4718571 (JP).

(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

*[Continued on next page]*

(54) Title: FUEL TANK SUPPORTING STRUCTURE



WO 2005/035291 A1

(57) Abstract: Fuel tanks (52, 54, 56) are disposed in parallel along a vehicle transverse direction on a rear sub frame (40). The fuel tank (54) is placed on fuel tank supporting brackets (62) which span between a cross rail (46) and a cross rail (48) of the rear sub frame (40). In a case in which an impact load F1 is applied to the fuel tank (56), the fuel tank (56) abuts a rear cross member (20), and upward movement is impeded. Therefore, weak portions (70) of the fuel tank supporting brackets (62) break, and the fuel tank (54) limitedly moves toward a bottom of a vehicle body.

**Published:**

— *with international search report*

*For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*